CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	Photograph #18
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1400281.017
Medium:	Computer Image File Printout
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	Not applicable
Applicant:	The District Court at Morrinsville
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	30 May 2014
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	No notice of decision has been issued

Summary of reasons for decision:

The image file printout is deemed objectionable because it promotes and supports the exploitation of children for sexual purposes.

The printout consists of a close-up photograph of a prepubescent girl sitting on a couch, posing in a manner that blatantly displays her buttocks and crotch, only partly covered by her scanty briefs. The girl is presented as sexually aware and available for sexual activity. The image encourages a sexual interest in children and perpetuates the idea that they are available for adult sexual gratification.

The classification of this publication interferes with the right to freedom of expression set out in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention and is a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression. The classification reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to protect its young and vulnerable members from sexual exploitation.